AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS.

Claims 1-24 (CANCELLED).

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An applicator according to claim 26, wherein:

at least a portion of said needles being made with solid and/or partial coats; and

in the case of partial coat of said needle, the areas adjoining to their sharpened portions are made of at least two materials which have different electrochemical potentials.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An applicator for use in reflexotherapy, comprisng:

a flat elastic base member;

a plurality of needles fixed in said flat elastic base member;

each needle comprises a core, a sharpened portion, and a thickened portion;

said thickened portions are fixed in said flat elastic base member in such a way that the sharpened portions protrude from [[the]] said flat elastic base member;

one or more groups of said needles have a partially coated core;

one or more groups of said needles have multilayer coatings of said core and sharpened portion;

one or more groups of said needles differ from the other groups by the materials they are produced of or by the coating materials, which have different electrochemical potentials;

said needles and their coatings are fabricated from materials selected from a group comprising steel, copper, chromium, nickel, silver, cobalt, aluminum, magnesium, zinc, tin, titanium, vanadium, beryllium, gold, platinum, strontium, tellurium or their alloys and oxides; and

each of said needles is placed on the base member in such a way that adjacent needles are made from materials and/or their alloys with different electrochemical potentials and are designed for contacting an user's skin.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An applicator for use in reflexotherapy, comprising:

a base member;

a plurality of needles fixed in said base member;

each said needle comprising a rod member having a sharp portion at a first end of said rod member, and a head portion at a second end thereof;

said head portion being wider than said rod member;

said rod member having a central longitudinal axis disposed in a first predetermined direction;

all head portions of said needles having major planar surfaces in a flat plane perpendicular to said first longitudinal axis of said rod member;

said needles being fixed in said base member so that said sharp portions protrude from said base member;

said rod member being made from a base material;

said needles including one or more first needles made from and/or coated with a first material, and one or more second needles made from and/or coated with a second material;

one or more third needles made from and/or coated with a third material having a different electrochemical potential than that of said first and second materials;

the coating on at least one of said needles comprises a multilayer coating of different materials;

the material in said needles and/or coatings being selected from steel, copper, chromium, nickel, silver, cobalt, aluminum, magnesium, zinc, tin, titanium, vanadium, beryllium, gold, platinum, palladium, strontium and tellurium or alloys or oxides thereof;

said first and second materials having different electrochemical potentials;

each said needle being ~~surrounded by~~ adjacent to needles having base materials and coatings made from different materials;

said needles being arranged in said base member in a configuration whereby, when adjacent needles having sharp portions are exposed to a surface of contact with a user's epidermis, said sharp portions are either coated with and/or are made from different materials; and

said partially-covered needles expose a surface of contact between each needle and the user's epidermis to at least said first and second materials.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An applicator for use in reflexotherapy, comprising:

a base member;

a plurality of needles fixed in said base member;

each said needle comprising a rod having a sharp first end and a head on a second end fixed in said base member so that said sharp first end protrudes from said base member;

said rod having a longitudinal axis;

said head being wider than said rod, and all heads of said needles having major planar surfaces disposed in one flat plane perpendicular to said longitudinal axis of said rod;

said needles being partially covered with a coating;

the coating on at least some of said needles comprises a multilayer coating of different materials;

the material in said needles and/or coatings is selected from steel, copper, chromium, nickel, silver, cobalt, aluminum, magnesium, zinc, tin, titanium, vanacium, beryllium, gold, platinum, palladium, strontium and tellurium or alloys or oxides thereof;

said needles including at least a first set of needles made from and/or coated with a first material, and a second set of needles made from and/or coated with a second material;

said first and second materials having different electrochemical potentials, whereby, in use, a surface of contact between each needle and a user's epidermis is exposed to at least said first and second materials having said different electrochemical potentials;

at least one additional set of needles being made from and/or coated with another material having a different electrochemical potential than said first and/or second set of needles; and

said needles being arranged in said base member in a configuration whereby adjacent needles having sharp first ends exposed to the surface of contact with the user's epidermis are either coated with and/or made from different materials.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) An applicator for use in reflexotherapy comprising:

a base member;

needles fixed in said base member;

each of said needles comprising a rod having a sharp first end and a head at a second end thereof;

each said needle being fixed in said base member so that said sharp first end protrudes from said base member;

said rod having a longitudinal axis;

said head being wider than said rod;

all heads of all needles having major planar surfaces disposed in one flat plane perpendicular to said longitudinal axis of said rod;

at least a portion of said needles being made with solid and/or partial coatings;

in the case of partial coating of the rods, areas near the sharp first ends including at least two materials having different electrochemical potentials;

needle rods and coatings being made of material selected from the group consisting of copper, chromium, nickel, silver, cobalt, aluminum, magnesium, zinc, tin, titanium, vanadium, beryllium, gold, platinum, palladium, strontium and tellurium or alloys or oxides thereof; and

the needles being arranged in the base member in a configuration such that adjacent needles comprise different rod and coating materials.